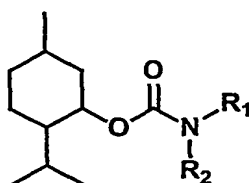


Claims

1. Use as an insect repellent of a compound of the formula



- 5 wherein,

$R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently selected from the group consisting of H; an aliphatic residue having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or a cycloaliphatic residue having 5 to 14 carbon atoms, or an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic residue aforementioned containing one or more hetero-atoms selected from O, N or S; an aryl or heteroaryl group having  
 10 from 6 to 14 carbon atoms and wherein hetero-atoms are selected from O, N or S; or any of the afore-mentioned groups substituted with a group selected from,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy,  $C_{2-4}$  alkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl as defined above, aryloxy, amino-, amido-, ester, keto-, hydroxyl, and halogen, or

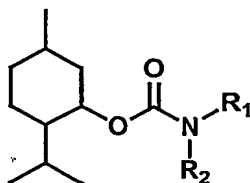
- 15  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered ring that may optionally contain additional hetero-atoms selected from O, N or S.

2. Use according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting  
 20 of

Methyl-carbamic acid (–)-menthyl ester;  
 Ethyl-carbamic acid (–)-menthyl ester;  
 Butyl-carbamic acid (–)-menthyl ester;  
 Isobutyl-carbamic acid (–)-menthyl ester;  
 25 Diethyl-carbamic acid (–)-menthyl ester;  
 Pyrrolidine-1-carboxylic acid (–)-menthyl ester;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (-)-menthyl ester;  
Morpholine-4-carboxylic acid (-)-menthyl ester;  
Phenyl-carbamic acid (-)-menthyl ester; and  
3-[(-)-menthoxy-carbonylamino]-propionic acid ester.

- 5 3. A compound selected from the group consisting of n-butyl-carbamic acid (-)-menthyl ester; iso-butyl-carbamic acid (-)-menthyl ester; diethyl-carbamic acid (-)-menthyl ester; morpholine-4-carboxylic acid (-)-menthyl ester; and 3-[(-)-menthoxy-carbonylamino]-propionic acid ester.
4. A composition comprising a compound as defined in any of the preceding claims in  
10 an insect-repellent amount.
5. A composition according to claim 4 comprising at least one additional insect repellent.
6. A composition according to claim 4 or claim 5 comprising additionally at least one insecticide.
- 15 7. A composition according to any one of the claims 4 to 6 comprising additionally at least one fragrance ingredient.
8. A method of repelling insects by applying to a substrate a preparation comprising at least one compound of the formula



20 wherein,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from the group consisting of H; an aliphatic residue having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or a cycloaliphatic residue having 5 to 14 carbon atoms, or an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic residue aforementioned containing one

or more hetero-atoms selected from O, N or S; an aryl or heteroaryl group having from 6 to 14 carbon atoms and wherein hetero-atoms are selected from O, N or S; or any of the afore-mentioned groups substituted with a group selected from, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2-4</sub> alkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl as defined above, aryloxy, amino-,  
5 amido-, ester, keto-, hydroxyl, and halogen, or

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered ring that may optionally contain additional hetero-atoms selected from O,  
10 N or S.

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